

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 3rd, 2016

“Brethren, pray for us.”

1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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April 3rd, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Pat Maddux — April 7th

**As the LORD leads you, please continue to pray for
our beloved Sister in Christ, Shirley Shanks**

“Beloved, where do you want to be found on that day? I trust your answer is in CHRIST. Walk not after the flesh, look away from your sinful flesh; walk after the Spirit, looking always and ever to the finished righteousness and atoning work of HIS flesh and blood. (ROMANS 8:1,9 2 TIMOTHY 1:12)

PASTOR

“...A FAITHFUL MINISTER OF CHRIST.” COLOSSIANS 1:7

What do faithful ministers of the gospel preach? Do they preach a theology? Do they preach some essential points of doctrine agreed to among religious men?

*“THEN PHILIP OPENED HIS MOUTH, AND BEGAN AT THE SAME SCRIPTURE,
AND PREACHED UNTO HIM JESUS.”*

Philip, as it is the case with all *faithful* ministers of the LORD, didn't preach a *theology*, he didn't preach an *opinion*, he didn't preach a doctrinal *position*; beloved, he preached a *PERSON*! He opened his mouth, and from the scriptures he preached JESUS!

Our LORD declares *“HE THAT BELIEVETH ON THE SON HATH EVERLASTING LIFE; AND HE THAT BELIEVETH NOT THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE; BUT THE WRATH OF GOD ABIDETH ON HIM.”* (JOHN 3:36)

Theology didn't give it's life as a ransom to redeem God's people, doctrines didn't shed any blood for the remission of sins. Beloved, taught of God, you know this—salvation is found by those who have, by God's quickening power, been made to *know* Him! All God's people can say with Paul *"I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED, AND AM PERSUADED THAT HE IS ABLE TO KEEP THAT WHICH I HAVE COMMITTED UNTO HIM AGAINST THAT DAY."* (2 TIMOTHY 1:12)

All faithful ministers, men sent of God, preach Christ Jesus the Lord; they don't preach themselves—they are not men pleasers—they are your servants for Jesus sake. (2 CORINTHIANS 4:5, GALATIANS 1:10)

LORD, enable your servants to open their mouths, and preach unto your people—JESUS. Grant us your enabling grace to be such a one as *Epaphras*, a *fellow servant and faithful minister of Christ*; without you we can do nothing. (JOHN 15:5)

PASTOR

REFORMED OR DEFORMED?

"FOR EVER, O LORD, THY WORD IS SETTLED IN HEAVEN." PSALM 119:89

* "We never want to focus on more narrow aspects of Reformed theology to the neglect of truths that are central, and that we share with many other Christians."—*C.J. Mahaney, Sovereign Grace Ministries*

** a quote from a reformed preacher who claims to believe the doctrine of God's sovereign grace*

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At the heart of all doctrinal error is the denial of particular redemption, most often in a subtle (cleverly indirect) manner. Such as Satan, who said, thou shalt not surely die (GENESIS 3:4). Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (GENESIS 3:1).

The above quote from a reformed preacher who claims to believe the doctrine of God's sovereign grace, reveals what he (along with a multitude of others) really believes. He cleverly and deceitfully states that total depravity, unconditional election, limited atonement (particular redemption), irresistible grace, and the perseverance of the saints, are not vital and central to the Gospel. He calls them "more narrow aspects," and further states they are not "truths that are central." *continues on the back page >>*

To appease and embrace those who hate and deny the very truths that are central (not just aspects) and vital to the glory of GOD, the Gospel of CHRIST, and the salvation of the elect, he further states there are “many other Christians” who do not believe the truth. Such charismatic rhetoric reduces and pollutes the blessed Gospel of Christ in his redemptive work to nothing more than just another doctrine for rebels to accept or reject. In their acceptance they are none-the-better, and GOD is blasphemed.

The reformed movement of our day is nothing more than an attempt to bridge the gulf between Calvinism and Arminianism at the expense of the truth for personal gain and self-glory. To make the truth palatable to all men is impossible without perversion and compromise. Those who do so shall be rewarded for their efforts. All the truths of God are central, narrow, and the focus of the true Gospel and every believer in Christ.

TOMMY ROBBINS

THE DRIVE OF EVERY TRUE MINISTER

The drive of every *true* minister is to comfort the people of God with the Gospel of Christ Jesus; to ever hold to their view the glorious accomplishment of the life and death of the the Lord Jesus Christ.

What did the Lord Jesus Christ accomplish? Believer HE has accomplished your salvation! He hath pardoned all your iniquity and sin and hath clothed you in His righteousness. You are saved by the doing and dying of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ our mighty God.

Unbelieving friend, CHRIST our GOD has said “...if ye believe not that I AM, ye shall die in your sins.” JOHN 8:24 (ISAIAH 9:6, EXODUS 3:14)

PASTOR

THREE R’S

“I believe that every sermon we preach should have **THE THREE R’S**: **RUIN** by the fall, **REDEMPTION** by the blood of *CHRIST* and **REGENERATION** by the *HOLY SPIRIT*. If our hearers learn these in their hearts, they will not go far wrong on other matters; but if they have not learned these, it will matter very little what else they learn. They will be like those who are ‘*ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth*’ (2 TIMOTHY 3:7)”

HENRY MAHAN